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NEW PROGRAM FOR MOROCCO

Newly appointed Resident General--Francis  
Lacoste--arrived French Morocco 14 June.

- A. Lacoste inherits bitter legacy hate,  
distrust left by two military predecessors
- B. Appointment is Paris attempt re-establish  
order, French-Moroccan co-operation after  
9 months' anti-French terrorism.
- C. Lacoste able career diplomat; long, wide  
experience, including Morocco (number  
two man French Residency 1947-1950,  
under Marshal Juin).
- D. Staunch advocate French position Morocco  
but personally favors moderate policy:  
intends "iron hand in silken glove."



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B. However, no change sudden anticipated near future.

C. Lacoste first steps include:

1. Conference some elements Moroccan nationalists he invited Paris
2. Proposal granting clemency national political prisoners.

III. Prospects appear dim, since program fails indicate new, bold policy needed for real settlement.

A. Too vague--no specific concessions yet indicated.

B. Fails specify final relationship as main factor--both which primary national objectives.

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1999 of French role in local government

-enforced on 50-50 basis by August 1953

reforms and immediate cause ouster

former sultan--remains major stumbling

block for both nationalists and French

settlers.

D. Return former sultan remains major  
nationalist objective.

E. Meanwhile, local reaction initial  
Lacoste proposals bitter both sides.

1. French veterans organization

Casablanca condemn Lacoste's alleged  
amnesty plan and intent negotiate  
with nationalists as "criminal and  
treasonable."

2. On 12 June, veterans' office wrecked  
by bombs.

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Mount Berber, El Glaoui, Moroccan

anti-nationalist Pasha Vachouch and  
principal native engineer Sultan's  
deposition hints that friends of  
France in Morocco will not give  
Lacoste confidence in a  
clemency to nationalists.

4. Nationalists in turn now expanding  
terrorism to include crop burning--  
burned 115 acres grain in past week.

F. American observers Morocco convinced  
drastic measures required to restore  
co-operation; agree minimum necessary:

1. Replace sultan with someone acceptable  
Moroccans.
2. Release nationalist prisoners, as  
only ones who command respect  
Moroccans.
3. French negotiation with established  
nationalist leaders.

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